ENTITLED, An Act to establish the South Dakota soil conservation award program and to make an appropriation therefor.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

Section 1. The South Dakota soil conservation award program is hereby established. Under the program, each conservation district may select not more than five residents of the conservation district each year as recipients of the Soil Conservation Award. To be eligible for an award, a person shall be a South Dakota resident who is directly and actively engaged in agricultural production in South Dakota. In selecting award recipients, the conservation district may consult with the South Dakota State Conservation Commission and other relevant entities. Awards shall be based upon the recipient's contribution toward the preservation and conservation of soil and other natural resources in South Dakota in conjunction with the recipient's agricultural operations.

Section 2. Each recipient shall receive a sign displaying the words "South Dakota Soil Conservation Award" "Award Winning Soil Conservation Farm" and the year of the award. The South Dakota Conservation Commission shall promulgate rules pursuant to chapter 1-26 governing the soil conservation award program. The rules shall include the following:

- (1) Criteria for selecting award recipients in accordance with the requirements of this Act, which shall include efforts to maintain grass waterways and eliminating cultivation of waterways; terracing; crop rotation; leaving crop residue after harvesting; and no till;
- (2) Procedures for nominating and selecting award recipients;
- (3) Procedures to publicize and raise awareness of the need for soil conservation practices as outlined in subdivision (1) of this section;
- (4) Other procedures necessary for the administration of the award program.

Section 3. There is hereby appropriated from the coordinated natural resources conservation fund

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established pursuant to § 38-7-25 the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, to the State Conservation Commission to implement the soil conservation award program as provided in this Act.

Section 4. The commission is authorized to accept and expend any gifts or contributions from any source for the purposes of this Act.

Section 5. The secretary of agriculture shall approve vouchers and the state auditor shall draw warrants to pay expenditures authorized by this Act.

Section 6. Any amounts appropriated in this Act not lawfully expended or obligated by June 30, 2009, shall revert in accordance with the procedures prescribed in chapter 4-8.

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| I certify that the attached Act originated in the | Received at this Executive Office this day of ,           |
|---|---|
| HOUSE as Bill No. 1248                            | 20 at M.  |
| Chief Clerk                                       | By for the Governor                                       |
| Speaker of the House                              | The attached Act is hereby approved this day of, A.D., 20 |
| Attest:   |   |
| Chief Clerk                                       | Governor  |
|   | STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA,                                    |
| President of the Senate                           | Office of the Secretary of State                          |
| Attest:   | Filed, 20<br>at o'clock M.                                |
| Secretary of the Senate                           |   |
|   | Secretary of State  |
|   | By  |
| House Bill No1248_<br>File No<br>Chapter No       | Asst. Secretary of State                                  |
| Chapter 110                                       |   |